

*Agelaius phœniceus floridanus* Maynard (1896) therefore becomes a synonym of *Agelaius phœniceus phœniceus* (Linnaeus, 1766), and the northern subspecies must be known as

***Agelaius phœniceus predatorius* (Wilson).**

NORTHEASTERN RED-WING.

*Sturnus predatorius* WILSON, American Ornithology, IV, 1811, p. 30, pl. 30, figs. 1 and 2.

*Characters.*—Larger than *Agelaius phœniceus phœniceus*\* with a shorter and stouter bill. Female darker, especially below, where the black stripes are much broader.†

*Geographical distribution.*—This form breeds from Fort Macon, North Carolina, and Smith's Island, Virginia, north to Nova Scotia, and westward, wintering as far south as Georgia and the Gulf States.‡

*Remarks.*—Wilson's figures, descriptions and measurements all represent the northern subspecies; and his reference, in synonymy, to specimens in Peale's Museum ("No. 1466, 1467") make it probable that his material came from eastern Pennsylvania, which region I therefore fix as the type locality of his *Sturnus predatorius*.

—Edgar A. Mearns.

NOTE ON THE MEXICAN BATS OF THE GENUS *DASYPTERUS*.§

Mr. Geo. F. Gummer has recently presented to the U. S. National Museum some specimens of *Dasypterus* taken at Izamal and Yaxcash, Yucatan, which represent two very distinct species. One is a large animal with skull about 18 mm. in condylobasal length, while the other is noticeably smaller; condylobasal length of skull about 15 mm. The difference in size between the two animals is thus about the same as that separating the European *Nyctalus noctula* and *N. leisleri*. Apparently this is the first instance on record of the occurrence of two members of the *Dasypterus ega* group at one locality.

The smaller animal, represented by adults only, appears to be the *D. ega panamensis* of Thomas; unquestionably it is a local representative of true *ega*, a species which in its various geographic forms ranges from Argentina to Lower California. It maintains a uniformly small size throughout a very extended area, the range of individual variation in condylobasal length of skull in specimens from Paraguay, Brazil, Bolivia, Yucatan and Lower California being from 14 to 15.6 mm. The larger species, represented by both adults and young from Yucatan, is equally constant, as the range of variation in adult skulls from Yucatan, Chiapas,||

\* See Ridgway's Birds of North and Middle America, vol. II, 1902, pp. 331 and 333.

† The darkest female specimens in the collection of the United States National Museum were collected at Plum Island Marsh, Essex County, Massachusetts, by Mr. William D. Carpenter, in June, 1911.

‡ Numerous winter specimens of both sexes, from South Carolina, in the U. S. National Museum collection, are all *predatorius*.

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|| Adult male (skin and skull), No. 133,030 (Biological Survey Collection), San Bartolomé, Chiapas, March 15, 1904, Nelson and Goldman.

southern Texas, Louisiana and Florida is only from 17.6 to 18.4 mm. This larger animal is *Dasypterus intermedius* (H. Allen), originally described from Matamoros, Tamaulipas. While it is not possible, in the absence of a better series of skins than that now available, to find any appreciable differences between the Yucatan and Chiapas specimens and true *intermedius*, it is evident that the form occurring in Louisiana and Florida (*D. floridanus* Miller) is sufficiently characterized by its shorter forearm and third finger to be regarded as distinct.

—Gerrit S. Miller, Jr.

#### THE VOLCANO RABBIT OF MOUNT IZTACCIHUATL.\*

In the catalog of the objects exhibited by the Mexican "Comisión Geográfico-Exploradora" at the Columbian Exposition in Chicago † Professor Augustín Díaz figures (pl. 42) a rabbit of the genus *Romerolagus*, under the name "Conejo del Volcán (*Lepus diazi* Ferrari-Pérez, sp. nov)." This plate is not mentioned by Merriam in the original description of *Romerolagus nelsoni* ‡ from Mt. Popocatepetl, or by Nelson in his monograph of the Rabbits of North America, § though it is alluded to by an anonymous editorial writer in *Natural Science* for March, 1897. ||

The validity of the specific name *diazi* is unquestionable under the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (Art. 25, and Opinion 1). According to the same Code the authority for the name is Díaz, not Ferrari-Pérez, since *Lepus diazi* remained in MS. until the publication of the catalog by Díaz, and no statement is anywhere made that "some other person is responsible for [the publication of] said name and its indication [= illustration]" (Art. 21, and Opinion 4).

Nomenclatorily the case presents no difficulties, but zoologically it has hitherto been obscured by the uncertainty as to whether the "Volcano Rabbit" was identical with *Romerolagus nelsoni*. This doubt has now been removed by the kindness of Professor Ferrari-Pérez, through which I have been enabled to examine the type and a second specimen of *Romerolagus diazi*. Both were taken in Puebla, on the eastern slope of Mt. Iztaccihuatl, a region about fifteen miles from the type-locality of *Romerolagus nelsoni*.

As compared with four skins of *Romerolagus nelsoni* the two specimens of *R. diazi* (both marked female, the type taken in March, 1885) show slightly less black in the grizzle of dorsal surface and slightly more gray on cheeks, characters probably due to the fading usual in mounted spec-

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† Exposición Internacional Colombiana de Chicago en 1893 | Comisión Geográfico-Exploradora | de la | República Mexicana | Catálogo | de los objetos que componen el contingente de la Comisión, precedido de algunas notas | sobre su organización y trabajos | por el ingeniero director | Agustín Díaz | Coronel de Estado Mayor Especial, Ex-Profesor en el Colegio Militar y en la | Escuela Especial de Ingenieros | Xalapa-Enríquez. Marzo de 1893 | Tipografía de la Comisión Geográfico-Exploradora. |

‡ Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, X, pp. 169-174. December 29, 1896.

§ North American Fauna No. 29. August 31, 1909.

|| X, p. 151.